## **NEWS RELEASE**

## Judd Gregg



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## FULL SENATE PASSES "HEROES" BILL FOR SOLDIER SCHOOL LOAN REPAYMENT

WASHINGTON -- Late last night the Senate unanimously passed legislation that will allow troops who have been deployed overseas more time to repay their school loans. The HEROES Act, which passed the House months ago with a vote of 241-1, has enjoyed broad support in both Houses, including that of Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

"I applaud the Senate for finally passing this important bill that lifts a weight off of the shoulders of the soldiers deployed to Iraq and elsewhere around the globe. The HEROES Act will give the men and women of our armed services more time to pay back student loans. This is a simple, but important gesture to those who are serving our nation so well," said Senator Gregg.

H.R. 1412, the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act (HEROES) of 2003 is a bill that will provide military men and women with additional time to make their student loan payments and relieve them of collection calls from lenders. This will help ensure that the men and women of the Armed Forces are able to focus full attention on their military responsibilities and the defense of the nation.